



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: Second Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 p.m. in place of the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the First Tuesday of each month.

2014 PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Tarwheels Fall Rally: Oct. 19

PPD Beach 2 Battleship Triathlon: Oct. 25

Makin' Room for Turkey Ride 2014: Nov. 23

Interested in helping? Visit <http://www.rars.org/public-service.php> for more information.

RARS General Meeting

Topic: RARS Auction led by Rick Kelly-Crapse, KB4TKQ

Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2014

Time: Registration at 6:40 p.m.; Meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Informal gathering and refreshments from 6:45-7:15

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church, 2011 Ridge Rd., Raleigh

RARS Auction Scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 14

Check-in and Registration starts at 6:40 p.m.

By Tom Lewis, N4TL, Vice President



Here's an update on the auction. I will print both a label and auctioneer's slip for all items that are preregistered prior to Tuesday. When you arrive, please find me, and I will give you your labels and auctioneer slips. Put the labels on your equipment and put the equipment on one of the numbered tables. Write the number of the table on the auctioneer's slips. Then give the auctioneer's slips back to me or to our auctioneer, Rick, KB4TKQ.

Each preregistered item will have an item number on it. That, along with your call and the table number will help us match the slips to the equipment after the auction starts. Preregistration will end at midnight on October 13. That will give me time on Tuesday to print all the labels and auctioneer slips.

If you don't preregister you can label your equipment yourself before arriving. Use the format below, you can use plain paper and

See **Auction Instructions**, p. 5

57th Jamboree-On-The-Air

October 17-19, 2014

For more information, visit the following links:

ARRL JOTA home page...

<http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota>

BSA JOTA home page...



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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).



Exciter

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's *Exciter* is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Cathy Downs, KA3QPU, editor (editor@rars.org)

For Your Information

RARS General Meeting

Date: **Second** Tuesday of each month

Location: **Ridge Road Baptist Church**

2011 Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC, 27607

Time: People begin arriving at 7 p.m.
The meeting officially begins at
7:30 p.m.

RARS Monthly Dinner

Join us on the **first** Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family. Feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check www.rars.org for details on the next dinner's location.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.640 & 443.625 (88.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing in May, August and November (location to be announced); the RARSFest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSFest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, your \$14 exam fee, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

Message from the President

Have you ever had a problem and you needed help? What a relief it was when someone offered to walk you through or talk you through the solution. The person who helped you was a mentor. In ham radio, the affectionate term for a mentor is "Elmer."

When new members hear the term, they might think experienced amateur radio operators all have the same first name. But we know that the term is a badge of honor.

If you have looked around at the RARS meetings lately, you are aware of just how many new members there are. Many of them have questions about their new hobby.

If you have time, and wish to share your expertise, consider offering to be an Elmer. Murray K4MHM, our Education Director, can be reached at k4mhm@arrl.net. Thank you for sharing your special knowledge...It is the only way we can create a new generation of Elmers!

73, CJ, NC4CJ

2014-2015 Meeting Topics

RARS Auction

Rick Kelly-Crapse, KB4TKQ.....Oct. 14

Elections; "Frequency Standards and Accurate Frequency Measurement."

Doug Hall, K4DSP.....Nov. 11

Holiday Party.....Dec. 9

World Radiosport Team Championship, July 8-14, 2014 (www.wrtc2014.org & pvrnc.org).....Jan. 13
Nate Morschi, N4YDU President of PVRC-NC.

"How Antennas Radiate".....Feb. 10
Dan, WY3O, head of NCSU Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Awards, Birthday Party & RARSfest Update...Mar 10
TBD

Titles, topics, and speakers subject to change.

New RARS Members

James Spangler	N7JLS
Karen Spangler	
Jimmy Smith, Jr.	
Sheryl Smith	
Steve Humphries	KE4COB
Russell Ashley	KM4DVD
Nathan Barnes	KM4DVE
Stephen Christie	KM4DVF
Tom Theriot	KM4DVG

Amateur Radio License Courses

*By Murray Merner, K4MHM
RARS Education Director*

Fifteen students attended the first session of the Extra Class course and a couple more may start at the second session. One student commutes from Baltimore, Md.! He leaves his home about 2:00 a.m. and goes home after the session.



A Technician Class course was scheduled to start Nov 15. **Because of the time required to develop the new Extra Class course and the new Technician Class question pool/manual, we are postponing the Technician Class course to mid-January 2015.**

Course instructor, Mike Murphy, WA4BPJ, covers all the material in each course manual and makes sure that subject matter of every question in the test pool is covered. He also goes to other sources such as the Internet to supplement the course content so course development is time intensive, but the result is impressive and instructive. Mike also speaks extemporaneously to more fully explain the complex concepts.

We are also looking for some assistance in providing live demonstrations for the Technician course on the use of 2M/440 radios using simplex, repeater, APRS, Winlink and Echolink modes.

October Birthdays

Scott	AB4SL	10/01
Olivia	KG4IYI	10/02
Dave	K4SAN	10/02
Pete	K4PHS	10/02
Jerry	W2GLA	10/02
Jay	KM4EP	10/02
Rod	AB4RG	10/05
Dale	W4AUV	10/05
Marisa	KJ4TAL	10/07
Tana	KB3UTX	10/08
Todd	AG4AY	10/08
Chris	KI4MMV	10/10
Gale	K4GGB	10/10
Frank	KY4W	10/11
James Smith, Jr.		10/15
Edmond	KM4ARV	10/17
Tommy	KK4OIH	10/17
Sean	KJ4EGT	10/17
Candy	NC4CJ	10/18
Mike	K4DRT	10/19
Joey	KE4DRJ	10/21
Austin	AJ4VK	10/21
Gary	KN4AQ	10/22
JC	KK4VUS	10/22
Curt	W4CP	10/23
Ric	KI4PVC	10/25
Mike	N4WJW	10/26
Bill	WA3FHM	10/27
Lou	W2ROW	10/27
Antoinette	KK4TTX	10/29

Last year we decided to have a schedule for the year. It wasn't perfect, but did help us and those planning to take a course. We will do that again and will try to have that completed before the end of the year. This year we had: two Technician Class, one General Class and one Extra Class courses, for a total of 61 students.

See **Amateur Radio Courses**, p. 5

Amateur Radio Courses, continued from p. 4

Course sites are always a challenge. We are currently at the Red Cross and have been there several times. We have been at the NCSU Electrical Engineering Department on Centennial Campus more than once and the main campus library twice. We have been to Wake Tech once.

If you have any ideas or “connections,” please let us know. We are anticipating a large Technician course attendance for our next course, so we would like a place big enough to hold about 40 students with tables.

Your help would be appreciated.

At the September general meeting, Nick England, K4NYW, pictured below, gave a presentation on “U.S. Naval Radio Communications—The 1950’s Internet.” You can read about U.S. Navy Radio Communications in the 1950s & 1960s at Nick’s website, <http://www.navy-radio.com/>.



photos by Tom Lewis, N4TL



Auction Instructions, continued from p. 1

tape. Print two of them, one for the equipment label and one for the auctioneers slip. Don’t write the reserve price on the one for the equipment but do write it on the one for the auctioneer. Below (the sidebar) is a label you can use for the auction. Number your items 1, 2, 3, etc. I will bring extra labels and paper.

Auction Label

Item # _____ Table # _____

Callsign: _____

Name: _____

Item: _____

Description: _____

Reserve: Yes or No _____

Reserve Price: \$ _____



At left, Dr. Gerald Hayes, KE4QBT, gave a presentation, “The Wireless Research Center of North Carolina and an Antenna Design Overview,” at the July general meeting. Members and guests socialized before the meeting.

Elmer Ranks Growing

By Murray Merner, K4MHM
RARS Education Director

We now have 15 Elmers! Many thanks for volunteering your time and expertise.

These Elmers have varied interests and expertise. We appreciate those who are willing to give another ham the benefit of their experience.

While the Elmer concept is seen mainly as help for the aspiring or new ham, those with a few hamming years under their belts may need some help too. That is why the RARS website has a link to "Elmers/Technical Assistance." Our Elmers help any ham who needs it.

Thanks to Hank Montgomery, K4HM, who has been a big help in getting this on the website.

Elmers are invited to attend the New Ham Meeting at 6:00 p.m. before the regular RARS

New Ham Meeting

We had our first New Ham Meeting in September. It was a big success. All the new hams thought the meeting was helpful, and they had learned something new.



New hams: Please join us.

This is a special meeting just for you to help get you started. Elmers are invited, and I plan to have other RARS members come and explain some of the things they do. No reservation is required, and there is no waiting!

meeting. Want to be an Elmer? Just let me know (mmmm0320@gmail.com). I'll put you on the list.



The ARRL defines an Elmer as "someone who provides personal guidance and assistance to would-be hams."

We at RARS think this goes beyond "would-be-hams" and continues into assisting new hams.

Murray Merner is forming a core of Elmers for new hams in RARS. Please contact Murray at mmmm0320@gmail.com and volunteer to be a RARS Elmer.

2014-15 Hamfests & Conventions

BEACHFEST 2014 | Nov. 8

Location: Conway, SC

Website: <http://www.w4gs.org>

JARSFEST 2014 | Nov. 16

Location: Benson, NC

Website: <http://jars.net>

North Carolina State Convention (43rd Annual RARSFest) | Apr. 4

Location: Raleigh, NC

Website: <http://www.rars.org/rarsfest>

Blue Ridge ARS's 56th Annual Hamfest | May 2

Location: Spartanburg, SC

Website: <http://brars.org>

Roanoke Division Convention (Shelby Hamfest) | Sept. 5

Location: Shelby, NC

Website: <http://shelbyhamfest.org>

Are You a Contester?

Visit the [ARRL's Contest Calendar](#) for a listing of upcoming contests.

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting Raleigh Amateur Radio Society August 15, 2014

Minutes will be posted when available.

New Sign-In Form

By Murray Merner, K4MHM, RARS Education Director

Perhaps you have seen various versions of the sign-in form when you attend RARS general meetings. We have been trying to get a form that not only gets the name of our members, but we want to get the names of visitors and new members too.

Raymond Lefrancois, KK4OOQ, has been working at the sign-in table for us and he, Bill Mars, AK4BL, and I have been testing forms to get all the information we want on one form. This last version that we tried last month may be the answer.

Current members just put in the information they have always provided.

We ask about the ARRL membership because we are an ARRL-affiliated club and need a certain percentage of our club members to continue to be eligible.

The columns “Phone

Number” and “E-Mail

Address” are only if your phone number or e-mail address has changed.

The last column may change from time-to-time. At the present time it is there to indicate if you want

to be an Elmer. It’s not necessary to check if you already are one.

We have a large club and have a lot of new faces. The “New Member” and “Visitor” columns are obvious—we use them for follow-up.

Raymond will be also asking them to wear a nametag of different colors (New Member—blue and Visitor—green) to distinguish them.

Please welcome new members and visitors to the club and club meetings.

If you are a current member, please wear your badge or get a different name tag so our new members and visitors will know who they are talking to.

We’re trying to make RARS a better club for its members.



Minutes

General Membership Meeting
Raleigh Amateur Radio Society
September 9, 2014

Minutes will be posted when available.

LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO NETS

The **Apex Emergency Response Communications Net** meets weekly each Sunday at 9 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. The purpose of the net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet. The Apex ERC Net provides amateur radio emergency communications for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints' disaster relief efforts. All stations are invited to participate in this net.

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 Net** every Monday night at 7:30 p.m. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Coastal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit www.carolina440.net.

Please join us each Tuesday at 9:15 p.m. on the 146.880 repeater for the **Central Carolina SKYWARN** net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net.

The **Ham Public Service Net** meets every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. and provides a forum and discussion platform for area clubs and individual hams to connect with and learn from other local hams who are interested in Ham Public Service. The HPSN is utilizing the Carolina 440 UHF Link System. The repeaters are also accessible through IRLP Reflector 9210, node 4270. The Ham Public Service North Carolina Yahoo Groups address is: www.groups.yahoo.com/group/hpsnc.

The **PCTN (Piedmont Costal Traffic Net)** meets daily at 9 p.m. on the 146.880 repeater. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 (PL tone 82.5).

The **RARS Technical & Trader's Net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.640 repeater at 8:00 p.m.

Join us every evening, except Saturdays, at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater for the **RARS Two-Meter Net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcome to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

The **VOIP Hurricane Net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to www.voipwx.net.

The **Wake County AUXCOMM Training Net** meets Thursdays at 8:15 p.m. on the 146.88 repeater. This net provides amateur radio operators information and training related to emergency communications and for our served agencies, such as Wake County Emergency Management. Please join us. For more information please visit <http://wake.nc.auxcomm.us/>.



Want to be a Published Writer?

Do you like building ham radio equipment? Have figured out a way to get an antenna up in a neighborhood with covenants and restrictions? Did you participate in a marathon or bike-a-thon? How about sharing your interests, knowledge, and experience with other hams in the *Exciter*? We need both technical and non-technical articles for the *Exciter*. Short or long, we'll consider just about anything amateur radio-related.

To submit an article, just email your piece to the Editor (editor@rars.org). Please feel free to attach any appropriate pictures or graphics. Be sure to include caption information about the images and identify the people in photographs. And always obtain their permission to use their image.

We look forward to promoting our hobby and sharing information! Break out those pens, pencils, or keyboards and get writing!



RARS Classifieds

RARS Members: [Post](#) a new 30 day listing or [Edit](#) your current listings at www.rars.org/classifieds.php. The items below were listed within the last 30 days.

There are currently no new listings...

Want to purchase a “new” but used piece of ham equipment? Do you want to sell some gear? Browse the RARS classifieds for amateur radio equipment at <http://rars.org/classifieds.php>.

RARS members may post notices about equipment they are selling. Posts last for 30 days and are editable at any time.

Using our classifieds is a great way for buyers to search for available items and for sellers to reach a local, targeted audience.

